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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/528,460	12/19/2005	Stefan Golz	Le A 36 282 (004974.01083)	7581
22907	7590	10/16/2006	EXAMINER	
BANNER & WITCOFF 1001 G STREET N W SUITE 1100 WASHINGTON, DC 20001			SHEN, BIN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1657	

DATE MAILED: 10/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/528,460

Applicant(s)

GOLZ ET AL.

Examiner

Bin Shen

Art Unit

1655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2,3 and 12-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 1655

DETAILED ACTION

The IDS received 3/18/2005, the preliminary amendment received 3/18/2005 have been entered.

Election

Applicant's election of Group I, claims 1, 4-11 in the reply filed on 9/21/2006 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claims 2, 3, 12-26 are nonelected and thus are withdrawn from further consideration.

Claims 1, 4-11 are presented for examination on the merits.

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract must be a single paragraph. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b). A new abstract on a separate page is required to replace the current abstract, which is the first page of the WO document of the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Art Unit: 1655

Claims 1, 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

2. Claim 1 is incomplete because it lacks a correlating step to accomplish the preamble of the claim.

3. Claim 5 recites the limitation "the cell" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

All other claims depend directly or indirectly from rejected claims and are, therefore, also rejected under USC 112, second paragraph for the reasons set forth above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 5-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yuasa et al. (JBC 2000;275(40):31469-31479).

Yuasa et al. teach a method of screening for agents useful in the treatment of a disease comprising: contacting a test compound with a PDE11A polypeptide; detect binding of the compound to PDE11A polypeptide (page 31473, left column, 3rd full

Art Unit: 1655

paragraph, page 31476, left column, 1st full paragraph and Table II), wherein His-tagged (detectable label) human PDE11A is expressed and cytosolic extract is prepared from COS-7 cells (in vitro cell-free system), incubated with [³H]cGMP or [³H]cAMP (detectable label), and then counted on a scintillation counter, (see page 31470, right column, 4th full paragraph, also page 31473, left column 3rd full paragraph, and Table II).

Therefore, the cited reference is deemed to anticipate the instant claims above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 4-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa et al., in view of Lanfear et al. (US2002/0115176A1).

Yuasa teaches what is above.

Yuasa does not teach that the contacting step is in or at the surface of a cell, the polypeptide is attached to a solid support, the compound is attached to a solid support.

Lanfear teaches a method of identifying agents that affect the activity of PDE11 and/or the expression thereof comprising adding agent in a cell line that expresses PDE11 (see paragraph

Art Unit: 1655

[0515]), test compound are synthesized on a solid substrate ([0526], lines 6-7), purified PDE11 can also be coated directly onto plates for screening ([0526], lines 11-13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Yuasa by attach the polypeptide and compound to solid supports because Lanfear teaches the benefit of using solid support for high throughput screening of compounds having suitable binding affinity to the PDE11 ([0526], lines 1-5). One would have been motivated to make the modification because Yuasa et al. specifically described the method of screening for PDE11A inhibitors and Lanfear teach that attachment to solid support make it possible for high throughput screening, and would reasonably have expected success in view of Yuasa' teaching that analysis of selective inhibitors for PDEs will elucidate new physiological functions of cAMP/cGMP in prostate and testis (end of page 31478), and Lanfear's teaching that inhibitors of PDEs will lead to more effective therapy with fewer side effects [0008]. The adjustment of particular conventional working conditions (e.g., the step of contacting is in or at the surface of a cell) is deemed merely a matter of judicious selection and routine optimization which is well within the purview of the skilled artisan having the cited reference before him/her.

From the teachings of the references, it is apparent that one of ordinary skill in the art would have had a reasonable expectation of success in producing the claimed invention. Therefore, the invention as a whole was *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, as evidenced by the references, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

Art Unit: 1655

Conclusion

6. No claim is allowed.

Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1636 by facsimile transmission. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.6(d)). The official fax telephone number for the Group is 571-273-8300. NOTE: If Applicant does submit a paper by fax, the original signed copy should be retained by applicant or applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to (571) 272-0547.

Patent applicants with problems or questions regarding electronic images that can be viewed in the Patent Application Information Retrieval system (PAIR) can now contact the USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center (Patent EBC) for assistance. Representatives are available to answer your questions daily from 6 am to midnight (EST). The toll free number is (866) 217-9197. When calling please have your application serial or patent number, the type of document you are having an image problem with, the number of pages and the specific nature of the problem. The Patent Electronic Business Center will notify applicants of the resolution of the problem within 5-7 business days. Applicants can also check PAIR to confirm that the problem has been corrected. The USPTO's Patent Electronic Business Center is a complete service center supporting all

Art Unit: 1655

patent business on the Internet. The USPTO's PAIR system provides Internet-based access to patent application status and history information. It also enables applicants to view the scanned images of their own application file folder(s) as well as general patent information available to the public.

For all other customer support, please call the USPTO Call Center (UCC) at 800-786-9199.

Any inquiry concerning rejections or objections in this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bin Shen, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-9040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, from about 9:00 AM to about 5:30 PM. A phone message left at this number will be responded to as soon as possible (i.e., shortly after the examiner returns to her office).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Terry McKelvey can be reached at (571) 272-0775.



MICHAEL MELLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

B Shen

Art Unit 1655